

6-5938

*card*

Major General W. D. Casper, USAF  
Director of Operations  
NSCIA The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Wiley:

While I do not consider it appropriate for me to write an official memorandum on this matter, I did want you to know personally that Lt. Colonel Robert A. Brandon, who accompanied me on my trip to South and Central America, acquitted himself well. The nature of the trip and my identity as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence placed before each member of the party certain problems which required the exercise of considerable tact and discretion. Colonel Brandon met this challenge in an outstanding manner, and, moreover, was a very pleasant travelling companion. I noted, too, that he is well known by many officers in the field and they obviously hold him in high esteem. It was a pleasure to have him with me on the trip.

Sincerely,

G. P. CARELL

Lieutenant General, USAF  
(1 Feb 5) Deputy Director

O/DCI/

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As you know, I recently completed a familiarization trip throughout South America. Considerations necessitated that I travel as an unescorted guest and therefore placed upon Air Force personnel at foreign stations an exceptional responsibility for planning, reception, and care of my party while at the station.

Mechanical difficulties made it inadvisable to take our C-54 into [redacted], and I called upon the Air Attaché [redacted] for assistance. He, in turn, sought aid from Major Pittman. Major Pittman responded immediately, not only with an airplane, but served as pilot, meeting my party at Arica, Chile, taking us to [redacted] and then on to [redacted] on our original schedule. We were then able to resume the trip by C-54. Our mission could not have been accomplished on schedule without his enthusiastic and effective assistance.

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Major Pittman's instant and willing response was a credit to the United States Air Force. It was also impressive to see at firsthand the high standing he enjoys with the American officials and the indigenous leaders of the areas he serves.

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C. P. CARELL  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Deputy Director